



US Army Corps
of Engineers

FACT SHEET

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Role in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program

FUSRAP
Formerly Utilized
Sites Remedial
Action Program

***"Public Health
and Safety is the
Army Corps of
Engineers' First
Priority"***

The Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) was created by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in the 1970's to clean up radioactive contamination at sites used in the nation's early atomic energy program. Congress transferred responsibility for this program to the Corps in October 1997.

Immediately following transfer of the program, the Corps began an assessment of the costs, schedules, and planned activities required to complete cleanup of the 21 remaining program sites and issued its findings in a report to Congress. As part of its management responsibility, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determines program requirements and requests funding each year in the annual Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act.

The formerly utilized sites transferred to the Corps were in various stages of cleanup. While some sites are nearing completion, many others require additional investigation before a final cleanup decision can be made. The Corps is performing its investigation and cleanup of these sites in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan. The procedures outlined in



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officials routinely inspect the handling, storage and transportation of hazardous materials.

the law and contingency plan require the Corps to seek public participation throughout the cleanup decision-making process.

At those sites requiring additional investigation, the Corps performs field surveys and a review of the site history. The information that is gathered is compiled by the Corps and published in documents

that become part of the administrative record for the site. An important step in the investigation process is the determination of the potential risk to human health and the environment from the disposal items at the site. If preliminary cleanup activities are required during the investigation to remove contaminants that pose an immediate exposure threat to human health or to control the spread of contamination, the Corps will take the necessary actions and provide for public participation opportunities.

To determine the preferred cleanup method for a site, the Corps' team of experts studies many alternatives that are protective of human health and the environment and compliant with applicable regulations as required by law. The Corps develops cleanup proposals that balance effectiveness, technically sound action steps and cost. The final cleanup method is determined after public and other government agency comments are considered. The Corps then issues a

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Record of Decision to document the final cleanup. The Corps designs the cleanup activities to meet the commitments made in the Record of Decision. Upon completion of cleanup activities, the Corps documents that the site can be considered for closeout.

Two years after closeout, the Corps is responsible for any monitoring or site maintenance needed. After two years, the responsibility for the site is transferred back to Department of Energy.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers site worker prepares to inspect an air quality monitoring device.